

TO Whom It May Concern

I Monique Riquelme is writing this letter to inform you that I came to this program for help on alot of things that's disfunctional in my life for starters being a mother without the children that she birthed. This program Father's for life means alot to me it gives me a sense of hope with rearranging with my children, and being the best that I can be in doing so. I also came to this program for guidance on things that I just didn't get in my life such as schooling, being a mom I feel that in order for me to succeed in there lives I have to get me straight before I can do anything for them and I just feel that this program is giving me the love I need in doing so I mean I can go on & on. But I will end by saying I feel Father's for life is a good program & it's making good structure for me at this point and time in my life Thank You Sincerely Monique

To whom it may concern:  
Fathers for Life has been a  
part of my growth. In participating  
in these parenting Classes has  
been a great benefit to me.

It shows me how to become  
a better single father. I feel  
that if the state decides to  
eliminate fatherhood fathers  
won't have a support group  
we learn alot from our  
counselor and our peers this  
is where are all sit and  
speak about our self & our  
kids. By keeping fatherhood  
open is a positive outcome.  
Which is reconnecting with  
my kid.

Respectfully Yours  
Bernardo Morales

Appropriations Committee      Testimony  
Feb. 13, 2013  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106

To Whom It May Concern;

I was notified that the ~~budget~~ State budget was rejected for Career Resources Fathers for life program. It has an impact on my life and many Father's <sup>and</sup> mother's <sup>and</sup> children's. Without this program, I ~~would~~ <sup>would</sup> never thought I could as well continue schooling. I personally attend the program in 12-24-12 and I can tell you, firsthand that I would not be <sup>as</sup> successful a parent as I am today without the assistance of Career Resources and Fathers for life.

I came along way attending the Fathers for life. Program me and many others that the program help feel the same way. This program got me back on the right track with alot of Hard work and dedication. Getting us involve with our ~~own~~ <sup>own</sup> kids and wanting to do better as a father. Exploring our education and fatherhood. ~~Being~~ <sup>Being</sup> good

Fathers for life : • Help's find jobs.

• Get involve with children

• Further Education

• ~~Set~~ Set Foundation for  
a life changing experience

• Learn how to support a  
rise kids right.

• Good or Better character  
within self.

Role models for our kids. I urge you to consider that we keep this program active and more. Mothers and fathers can get help from this program as I did.

I understand that many decisions need to be made, and I do not ~~envy~~ your ~~position~~ position with low cost, high impact programs such as fatherhood. With your programs designed specifically for parents, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep fatherhood in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at the information below.

Sincerely,

Mamie L. Wells Jr.

Mamie L. Wells Jr.

15 Outlook St

Bridgeport

(Cell Ph) 717-318-0522

(Home) 203-374-6613

To Whom it may concern,

I was informed that the "Fathers For Life" program was not gonna receive funding anymore. I do not agree with that decision. The "Fathers For Life" program helped me in many ways. They got me on the right track to getting visitation with my son. They also helped me realize that fathers have just as much rights as mothers. My counselor was Javier Santiago and he helped me with visitation, my anger, ways to cope with problems, and helped me grow courage. He is a wonderful person that helped me get on the right track in life. I feel that this program was a blessing. They did not give off a client feeling they gave a feeling of family and care. I know this program is able to help fathers. The concern, effort, and support I received from the program ~~was~~ was way beyond what I expected. To cut off the programs funding would be wrong. I hope you can take my opinion into consideration. I know the program can change and turn lives around.

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

My name is Anibal Nieves. I am currently in the Father's for Life Program. This program offers custody/visitation assistance and advocacy. It is because of this, that I am able to see my twin daughters on a regular basis. Fathers for Life is also teaching me the necessary parenting skills that I need to be the father my daughters deserve. I am all for keeping this program in the state budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anibal Nieves', written in a cursive style.

Anibal Nieves  
86 Spring Street  
New Haven, CT 06519  
(203) 600-0237

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the Fatherhood program in the State Budget. The Fathers for Life program has had a profound impact on the lives of fathers, mothers, and children. I personally attended the program in Bridgeport and have received support, parenting skills education and court advocacy from program staff.

I understand that many tough decisions need to be made. This program is low cost and high impact and with so few programs designed specifically for fathers, I believe it would be worth it to keep the program going. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep Fatherhood in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Juan F. Hernandez".

Juan Hernandez  
86 Benson Street  
Bridgeport, Ct 06606  
(203) 726-5837



February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

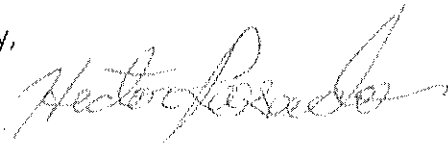
Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

My name Hector Rosado and I have been coming to the Fatherhood program in Bridgeport for a while. It helps keep me from getting into trouble and I learn new things in life from hearing everybody that say their side of their story every week. I always learn something new. This program is good because people really get help here.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hector Rosado". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Hector Rosado  
19 South Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
(203) 685-3001

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the Fatherhood program in the State Budget. The Fathers for Life program has been a staple in the Bridgeport community for many years, and has had a profound impact on the lives of hundreds of fathers, mothers, and children. I am a recent graduate of the program in Bridgeport, and can tell you firsthand that it would hurt the community if there was no assistance from Career Resources and Fathers for Life.

I understand that many tough decisions need to be made. With so few programs designed specifically for fathers, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep Fatherhood in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me at the information below with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie Sorrells".

Leslie Sorrells  
392 Prospect Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
(214) 392-2610

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I was greatly disturbed when I was informed that Father's for Life (the Fatherhood program) may not receive any more funding. I strongly disagree and believe that this program is a privilege for fathers like me and with the program not receiving funds it will take away from fathers and families. Without the program I would not have anything to manage my time and better myself. I think this program is really good for me and the alternative would be incarceration and I choose Fathers for Life.

I am glad I did because since I been in the program it has helped me in many ways such as preparing myself for an interview, job searching, how to present myself, how to look presentable, how to communicate and approach certain tasks. Through it all, it has helped me to feel good about myself.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tajuan Fogle".

Tajuan Fogle  
429 Lincoln Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06606  
(203) 450-8073

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

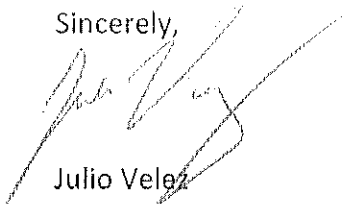
To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of keeping the Fatherhood program in the State Budget. The Fathers for Life program has been a staple in the Bridgeport community for many years, and has had a profound impact on the lives of hundreds of fathers, mothers, and children. I personally attended the program in Bridgeport, have graduated and still receive support from program staff. I am currently in the process of petitioning for regular visitation with the assistance of the Fatherhood program.

I understand that many tough decisions need to be made. This program is low cost and high impact and with so few programs designed specifically for parents, I believe it would be extremely unwise to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep Fatherhood in the budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,



Julio Velez  
28 Martin Luther King Drive, Unit #7  
Norwalk, Ct 06854  
(203) 919-0416

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Appropriations Committee Testimony  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2702  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

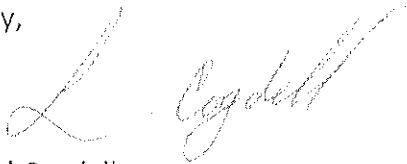
To whom it may concern;

I am writing in regards to the Fatherhood program being kept in the State Budget. I know that the state is going through a lot of changes and has to cut funding but, I honestly feel that if the funds were cut it would hurt a lot of people. This program helps provide individuals who lack the knowledge, network and the basic foundation to begin being productive and a true father in their children's lives as well as a productive citizen in our community. So that's partly why I believe cutting this program will be a great loss.

I also feel, being a recently incarcerated father, that this program is a vital part of my reintegration into society. I was recently released from prison and currently lack the knowledge and foundation of finding a job and learning how to network. I believe this program can give me the tools I need to not only survive but, also strive in society. So if you could, please reconsider cutting funding for this program.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'L. Cogdell', written in dark ink.

Lynwood Cogdell  
530 West Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
(203) 296-0154

To: State of Connecticut, Appropriations Committee

Date: February 20, 2013

Having lived in Connecticut for nearly 30 years and enjoyed and appreciated the state's beauty, diversity, history and charm, I strongly urge the Appropriations Committee to continue to support the present budget of \$15 million to the statewide effort in tourism and marketing. The revenue generated through tourism, which is derived from every sector of the State, is vital to this economy. Tourism is a REVENUE GENERATOR, not a cost to taxpayers.

While we understand that attendance at major visitor attractions has increased 6.68% just since the new FY12 campaign, the impact of this investment goes well beyond these attractions. In my world of higher education, quality student recruitment is critical to the future of all Connecticut's institutions of learning. The state image, availability of stable, educated and lively communities and institutions of higher education, contribute to our attractiveness, not just for students, families and visitors, but for business development. The coordinated effort, whether to bring regional and national sporting championships, or manufacturing or religious conventions to the state, all speak volumes about who we are and our ability to bond as an intellectual team.

I urge you to support the \$15 million statewide tourism marketing fund investment. It is a small price to pay for such significant and far reaching returns.

Patricia H. Meiser

Director of Athletics

Special Assistant to the President

University of Hartford